

**Town of Milton
Town Council Meeting
Milton Fire Hall
116 Front Street
Monday, April 22, 2013
6:30 p.m.**

**Transcriptionist: Helene Rodgville
[Minutes are Not Verbatim]**

1. Public Participation

Mayor Jones: Okay let's go through public participation.

- a) Jeff Dailey, 211 Gristmill Drive: Thank you Mayor and Council. I am not really clear on where this is in the process. I believe there was a preliminary proposal made to the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the propane farm relocation in the Cannery Village neighborhood. I think they have to go back to Planning and Zoning. What we are discovering is that the agent for Cannery Village, the contracted propane supplier, Poore's Propane, put forth before Planning and Zoning all of the planning for an underground, primarily, principally, tank farm to lie on open space just behind the Cannery Village outdoor pools. That's a whole issue in in of itself, but it was suggested at Planning and Zoning that perhaps the short lane, the short part of a lane; I believe it is Acre Lane, that runs adjacent to the end of the clubhouse be rebuilt to withstand regular truck traffic that would have to go onto a driveway to service and fill propane farm. Now, Poore's is contracted to do the work on the tank farm. I have learned that they are refusing to do anything to Acre Lane, which might indicate that they and their bosses, Chestnut Properties, would do something to the streets; so here we have again, a streets issue and this whole other issue of a propane farm on what for the residents, is probably the last remaining sizable free space for quality of life issues, should future residents want additional parking for the existing clubhouse; should they want a tot lot and playground closer to the homes; should they want tennis courts; and under the heading Quality of Life Issue, I really would like to Town to get a little more tough and look at consumer rights; look at what we were promised by sales reps in Chestnut Properties; example the whole megila, because it really is out of control. I don't understand why, as a Town, we're not contacting the Attorney General on these kinds of issues, or the Governor, for that matter. I think they should be in attendance at the kinds of workshops that impact, again, quality of life issues. I will tell you this, whatever comes to you all from Planning and Zoning Commission, from Poore's Propane, in terms of the plans for this propane farm, it had better be the best plan for a propane farm in the universe and you know me, I'm given over to hyperbole on occasion; but there's not reason why it has to be second rate, when the sale of the 40 acres to Dogfish Head should have, and could have, if anybody was stepping up to bat for the residents, a place for the propane farm to be located on that property. There is also the large parking lot that is black topped over to secure what has been declared wasteland, with contaminants; but under DNREC's supervision, there's no reason why that propane farm couldn't be put on the border of that parking lot. It might cost Mr.... well the people associated with Chestnut Properties more; it might cost the propane company more, but it would ensure the quality of life for

the residents, for future residents and I'm not thrilled with having a propane farm behind homes; next to a communication station, WBOC; or next to a fitness and health center and an outdoor pool. I really don't understand why the Town isn't stepping up to really examine these quality of life issues. They haven't in the past. I've lived here now through a second term of one Mayor, through our last Mayor and now here we are and these changes are about to take place. I don't understand and I really think that we need to ratchet it up. This Town has to understand that it is obligated, and the State has to be made to understand, to the consumer's. There are very few protections for members of Homeowner's Association communities, but that too, needs to be exposed. So this is a major issue. It's not going to go away. If the developer has his way and it's located there, then of course, the quality of life issue is out the window and it's all done on the backs of the residents who bought into one thing and have something else, again, and we are cast in the shadow of Shipbuilder's, because those people bought into one thing and it's become quite another over the years, sad to say and I'll just finish by saying, we've got to have Uniform Code Enforcement because that neighborhood really is an eyesore; it's an injustice to people who bought there, who live there, and want to enjoy a decent quality of life. So there again, is the quality of life issue for Miltonians. Thank you. I know I spoke too long, but it was the only way I could get it all to you. Thank you.

- b) Ginny Weeks, 119 Clifton Street: To the newcomers on Council, thank you and we wish you the best. It's a tough job. I was very happy to see on the agenda your Item c under New Business, a council workshop on long range planned projects and goals and will be interested to see what you all think they should be. I have some small suggestions that I'd like to give you. Before the election, people were coming up and saying the Town is looking shabby and it is looking shabby. I mean it's gotten to the point where we've gotten comfortable with it and that's wrong. If you go away and you come back, you realize there's a lot of work that needs to be done. People's homes are in disarray. A lot of them are rental properties; some of them are business properties. You walk on Federal Street, the sidewalk in front of Goshen Hall, there isn't a piece that's not cracked. I would like to suggest that making an assumption that a lot of the properties in Town that need to be looked at are rental properties and rentals are businesses; that you develop a Code of minimal standards and you make those rental properties and you make those business people hold those minimum standards up before they can get a business license or a rental license. How much would it cost a rental guy to power wash the mold off the side of his house. Some of these houses haven't been power washed in years. There's a house on Mulberry; it's a small sort of mid-century house and it's okay, except I believe Sposato owns it and they keep their workers there during the summer; the driveway's not paved; the sidewalk's always full of sand; it's a mud puddle when it rains. There are people, sorry John, I know that the kiosk has been your heart. I'm tired of looking at building supplies on people's front porches. Those should be kept in the backyard or the side. I'm tired of looking at the three houses; three big white, what could be magnificent houses on Union Street; that I have lived here 8 years and have yet to be fixed. They're in a constant state of Harry Homeowner doing his work. Well it's time to tell Harry... There was a woman in Palm Beach and she was building a mansion and it was taking too long and the Palm Beach Town Council started to fine her \$10,000 a day to get the job done and she got it done quickly. She got it done quickly. It was done within four months. She'd been at it for seven years. Grass in the sidewalks. You walk along the sidewalks, there's grass coming out. On the lot behind my house, on it's side by

Mulberry, when they mow it, the seeds go out and the sidewalk is narrowing because it's building up; and those sidewalks are going to become uneven soon because of the grass growing in. I see on reports from Public Works that they're killing grass on sidewalks somewhere; but it hasn't been on Union Street and it hasn't been on Mulberry Street and we just would like to be treated like wherever it is that they're killing grass on sidewalks. The Tidewater land over here that they want to buy. I'm asking you to think about making it a park for kayakers. To remove that kayak landing from behind the library and put it over here on that land, it floods the same as the land over there. I'm sure through Nemours and other places, you can get grants to accomplish it and free up that parking behind the library for the residents. We have businesses which I am happy to see coming into Town, meeting rows of kayakers that have come in from Lewes, picking them up in their trucks and their trailers behind the library, taking up a lot of space, maneuvering very difficult situations and driving over to Dogfish and letting them tour Dogfish and then I'm not sure if they bring them back here or they take them back to Lewes. Wouldn't it be so much better for everybody in Town if they came up over here off of Front Street, where it's not so tight and cramped. It seems to me a good use for a public piece of property that floods. And grass, yes grass. People don't like to mow their lawns too much around here. I think 10" is excessive. If you made it 7"; could you change it to 7"? It takes a long time to get to 10" and we've got to look at an awful lot of ugly, messy, uncut lawns; mostly in rental properties perhaps; before it gets cut. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

- c) Lorraine Wasserman, 244 West Shore Drive: I just want to say that you need to lower the microphone a little bit. Because summer's coming up and watering the lawn, I think we really need to focus on water conservation big time and I'm happy to put my irrigation system on twice a week, instead of 4 or 5 days a week. We can all do a little bit extra. As a matter of fact, I go to the Cape Henlopen Beach in the park there and I use their showers three times a week. I'm saving a lot of money just by saving water that way. There's all kinds of ways you could save water and I think it's crucial that we learn to do that, because there might be a problem this summer. I doubt it, but there just might be. The other thing is I was out and about in my neighborhood Saturday, because we had a yard sale and Schell Brothers had a block party and I just want to say, Mayor and Council, we have such a positive feeling in Milton; it's catching all over. We sold seven homes; Schell Brothers in our Wagamon's Pond has sold seven homes since Marion has been Mayor. I don't think it's all because of her, but there's just a positive feeling in the area and I was talking to a lot of people and they just think that they read the Coast Press; they're talking about Marion's doing something, the Council are doing something, about maybe trying to get a college here; get the Economic Development here, which is wonderful. I want to stay in Milton. It's the first time I feel like it's my home town and I love this town and I love the job everybody's doing, so thank you. That's all I've got to say.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

- d) Ginny Weeks: I'm sorry. My eyes aren't as good as they used to be. The Land Boards need to be educated, the Land Use Boards. IPA gives classes. They're not expensive. It's \$40 a person, or it used to be. I went once during Don Post's first administration. When I was chairman of Planning and Zoning I asked that we be kept apprised of when those courses were going to be offered and the answer was, you could look it up on the Internet. I would ask you to take an active role in making sure that it is available at the

cost to the Town; for the Board of Adjustments and the Planning and Zoning Commission to attend those courses. Thank you.

- e) Jeff Dailey, 211 Gristmill Drive: The property that is for sale along Mulberry, I would hope that you would consider buying it, making an offer, even if you paid for it over time; because the Town doesn't have enough land within it's town limits; this would be an opportunity to have that land, perhaps in the future it may be purchased from the town, if the town doesn't want it, perhaps a church would be established there. We don't know what might be in order, but we should see if there's a way to negotiate a reasonable price tag, even if the financial institution would consider buying it over time.
Mayor Jones: Thank you.

2. Moment of Silence

3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

4. Call to Order – Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. and closed the Public Participation. Mr. Abbott would you like to come join us? We have room for you.
Win Abbott: No, I'm fine.

5. Roll Call – Mayor Jones

Vice Mayor Booros	Present
Councilman West	Present
Councilwoman Patterson	Present
Councilman Cote	Present
Councilwoman Parker-Selby	Present
Councilman Collier	Present
Mayor Jones	Present

6. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Mayor Jones: Do we have any additions or corrections to the Agenda?

7. Agenda Approval

Councilman West: I'll make a motion that we adopt the Agenda.

Councilwoman Patterson: Second.

Mayor Jones: Any discussion? We have a motion and a second to accept the agenda, as amended. All in favor say aye. Opposed. Motion carried.

8. Old Business – Discussion and possible vote on the following items:

a. None

9. New Business – Discussion and possible vote on the following items:

a. Best Practices regarding updates to Personnel Policies

Mayor Jones: Mr. Abbott wanted to discuss Best Practices regarding Personnel Policies.

Win Abbott: Thank you Madame Mayor. This will be very brief. I just wanted to take the opportunity while all the Council is here to recognize the huge amount of work that was started on updating our Personnel Policies by the Personnel Committee under

former Mayor Newlands and I look forward to working with the newly constituted Personnel Committee. Something that I want to emphasize for the good of the whole Town and that is that we want to be deliberate in the way that we move forward with this. There are quite a number of changes that were proposed, that went above and beyond simply updating our Employee Handbook to make it compliant with current Federal and State laws or our insurance policy, which is what we passed before. There are a number of changes that were suggested that do change the nature of the employment relationship with some of our employees. In some towns, they do have it in their ordinances that there will not be changes to the Employee Handbook unless there is a posting in a public area where all the employees can see and have an opportunity to comment for ten days. That's not the case in the Town of Milton. Just like in the Town of Milton it's not the case that we have two readings of an Ordinance before we pass it; but we've adopted this Best Practice of reading an Ordinance once in a public venue and then coming back and revisiting a month later, so that there's ample time for the public to have input and for the council to consider things that you might not have thought of at first. So I am encouraging the Council to consider allowing me to post any kind of updates that we make to the Employee Handbook in places where the employees can see it, provide them an opportunity to provide feedback, before we move forward with adopting these policy changes. So once again there was quite a lot of work that we have been doing in scratch format; as we sat down and worked through these things I'll be developing then sharing those with the Council and I want to share those with the employees before we move forward and actually adopt them. Most all of us have come from the private sector, where the whole concept of employment at will, is what guides our practices; however, through case law you can find out that employment in the public sector is viewed as more of a property right and we certainly don't want to get the town into a position where we have deprived our employees of what could be perceived as a property right; the changed relationship that the employees have with the town, through these updates of our Employee Handbook and by being very deliberate, perhaps a little bit slow about making these changes, I think that we may be able to keep morale high and avoid any future, possible, occurrences of employment practices lawsuits. So I just wanted to put that out for you all to consider; we'll be thoughtful and deliberate in the way that we update these future changes to the Employee Handbook. That would be Best Practices.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Mr. Abbott, I'm in agreement with you, assuming that these kind of things have been going on, but evidently they have not. Now you're saying basically that you would like to, when there are updates, allow the employees to review them and have input first. Is that correct?

Win Abbott: Yes, Ma'am, and it doesn't mean that you necessarily have to honor that input. It's just...

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: No, no, no and I'm with that, because I feel that's very necessary for a positive working atmosphere that has to be. I did Personnel for a few years at Cape, so I understand; you kind of have to do that; it's the right thing to do. The other piece I'm making sure I understand is we have not, or do not have to have two readings of these updates at our meetings? Please clarify me.

Win Abbott: That is correct. What we're talking about right now is changes of policy. Depending upon the nature of the relationship that a Council may have with their Town Manager, policies are changed by virtue of a memo going out to all the employees at a

given time; at least small changes. But nonetheless these things change the nature of the relationship with our employees; there's something that I would want for the whole Council to be on board with by adopting them by way of Resolution and similar to that, there are some towns that have it written into their Code, where before they can create a new Ordinance or amend an existing Ordinance they must have two public readings. That requirement is not written into our Code, so when I started here about a year and a half ago, I noticed that that wasn't there and I strongly suggested that we adopt that practice. It was adopted. I think it's worked out well for us. Some new Ordinances or amendments to Ordinances that were brought up for business, have been brought up several times and never adopted; and some of them went through with two readings, the total space from the time of notice to the public and both readings might be five weeks; if it's a week before Month One and then a month passes by and you have Month Two and there's no problem with that either. But once again, this is not something that the Council is required to do, it's a Best Practice that we've done for Ordinances and I think we should do it when we're making significant policy changes too.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I'm clear on that and I like that. That's what I'm used to, doing the two readings and so forth. That's the piece that I think is very necessary as well; but we have adopted that so I don't have to say anything further.

Councilman West: Mr. Abbott, I have a question. Are you going to make this a two-way street that the employees could bring you suggestions to change policy?

Win Abbott: Absolutely.

Councilman West: Because their input is also valuable, just as well as our input to them.

Vice Mayor Booros: Just for the record, I think five of the seven of us do come from the public sector; five out of seven of us; so we're well aware of the difference between at will employees and we have municipal, state and federal employees sitting up here.

Win Abbott: My apologies.

Vice Mayor Booros: We're all well aware, trust me, we're well aware of things that I've watched for several years that were done improperly, because I come from the public sector and people were doing it the old fashioned, private industry way and you can't do it the private industry way. Different ball game.

We have a motion and a second to approve the Council appointments and assignments. All in favor say aye. Opposed. Motion is carried.

b. Scheduling the next Personnel Committee meeting

Mayor Jones: Okay. I think we'll talk about that a little bit more in subject 9 b – Scheduling the Personnel Committee meeting. Do we have calendars with us. I would recommend, actually, that we schedule two of them, with enough time in between the first and the second one for Mr. Abbott to work an update on the work we do in the first Committee Meeting, but we are coming into summer time and I'm looking at the month of May and Mr. Abbott your schedule, too, here is important to consider. The meetings were held at 4:45. I thought that worked. I was even able to get to that, if that works for other members of the Committee.

Councilman Collier: I'm fine with 4:45.

Vice Mayor Booros: It's fine with me.

Mayor Jones: Could we meet as soon as May 7th?

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I have a conflict that day.

Mayor Jones: Could we meet on May 9th?

Vice Mayor Booros: We have a Town Council meeting on May 9th.

Mayor Jones: No, it's on the 13th.

Vice Mayor Booros: Did we change that?

Mayor Jones: No it was adopted as the 13th.

Win Abbott: May 9th is fine for me.

Mayor Jones: We have a Memorial Day holiday in there, so I would be in agreement if we go ahead and schedule this one and then back it up with a second one as soon as we're able to, once we have this committee meeting. We'll make that at 4:45 at Town Hall?

c. Council Workshop – Long range projects and goals

Mayor Jones: If you joined us on the 10th of April, council met here to discuss among ourselves opportunities to bring up again the items that have been, as Mr. Abbott, eluded to, have not passed, have not been reviewed enough to get Council's vote; those included the media policy that we had begun to work on a good long time ago; purchase orders and process was one of the ones I had commented on, but there were a number offered by the Council here, so tonight we come back together, giving the chair people of some of the very, very hardest working and significant groups some time tonight to organize and have other council members help them organize and prioritize some of the projects that were named previously. Has Council all been thinking of more things since we convened and does anyone have any that just popped into their heads, before we continue on with those items we already discussed?

Vice Mayor Booros: I think the property that Mr. Dailey was speaking about, up at Shipbuilder's, I think it should not be just killed; it was never decided. I've been to a couple of meetings since the last time it was brought up and there are some possible uses for the property that might be appropriate and I understand a For Sale sign went up on the property, but they were willing to wheel and deal, so I think that shouldn't be killed yet.

Mayor Jones: Okay, we talked about that at the last meeting.

Councilman West: Madame Mayor, John and I had talked about the possible uses of this and that's why I said what I said at the Council Meeting when the Mayor wouldn't listen to us; because the ideas we had come up with always got shot down. There's a lot of good uses for this property, for the Town.

Mayor Jones: Okay, then let me put it in this way, under the purchase of Shipbuilder's property, I'd like to place this on an agenda, or at least we will put it on our priority list and then we will talk about it going on the agenda, but Councilman West I would charge you with coming up with more than just ideas; organizations; what their timeframe would be in a building like this; what their needs are; I would need to know those things and the rest of the Council would need to know those things too, as they consider what to do with that parcel and whether or not it is something that the Town of Milton can wrangle with financially at this time.

Vice Mayor Booros: I've had discussions with First State Community Action and they were actually going to come out and look at the property, to see if it would be appropriate for possibly running summer camps for the youth over the summertime, as well as during the week. They offer programs around the County and all the other municipalities around here, but Milton; all the surrounding municipalities are running

after school programs for the Hispanic community where they're helping them do their homework, so that they don't go home to non-English speaking parents and they have people helping out. They were going to come look at it. I have not heard back from them yet, to see if it was appropriate for the types of things that they do.

Mayor Jones: And would you have an outline of what this particular agency would need, as far as building use, times, ideas?

Vice Mayor Booros: Hopefully. They may come back to me and tell me that it's not appropriate for what they want, at all.

Mayor Jones: So you are waiting for them to look at the property to have an idea.

Vice Mayor Booros: Actually I pulled her card out today and all the things that she discussed with me and I will call her and try to firm up something.

Mayor Jones: Mr. Abbott, that information is still available on any contractors who gave an idea of the costs there?

Win Abbott: Yes, Madame Mayor, I think that the critical thing to consider is the use of the building. Now the building was a community center before; however, the restrictive covenants for Shipbuilder's Village say that we can't use it for a commercial enterprise, unless we get every single property owner in Shipbuilder's to sign off and that's highly unlikely for us even to be able to track down with a couple of homes in foreclosure; so having the proposed use that Councilman West and Vice Mayor Booros have indicated, would be consistent with what it's original purpose was. If we were to move forward with this option we have two things to think about. One, the use or sale of the parcels for which their only intended purpose would be residential; we have five remaining parcels; the building and parking lot are on two; and also, cash flow. It's fine to retrofit this building and allow community service agencies to do it; but we don't know what they're going to be able to pay for the use and service. If they're not going to pay anything, then that's going to be an additional financial burden for the Town to bear, regardless of what the arrangements are for the purchase; something's got to be paid for. That's all, but I have all the information on the builders and everything.

Mayor Jones: Okay.

Councilman West: Because Vice Mayor Booros and I were talking before we came up here, about this, and we were thinking about bringing it under Parks and Recreation for discussion. Also, I've got a lot of feedback from some of the property owners around Shipbuilder's and they would love to see the Town purchase it, to do something good with it, it would benefit the whole community.

Mayor Jones: And I happen to agree, but there is a wide span between purchase it and do something good with it. There is a lot of planning. There is money to be considered that this Town is in need in so many ways; can you buy it and bank it? Can we afford to do that at this time?

Vice Mayor Booros: I would never suggest buying it and banking it; I would suggest buying it and using it for the good of the community, as a community center for the kids.

Mayor Jones: Well when I say buy it and bank it, it's buy it, fix it, we still would be paying for it. So there's a good bit of money involved and I need to weigh that... Me, I'm only one vote; we would need to weigh that against the other things that we also need in Milton.

Vice Mayor Booros: Absolutely.

Mayor Jones: But I think it's a good idea for that to come up as quickly as we're able to form this priority list. Anybody else, on this piece? On this parcel?

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I'm glad I'm hearing this conversation, because being one concerned about the youth here in our Town and not having things to do, that would be an ideal place and I'm thinking, also in my mind, tapping into our County Council and so forth and so on for some funding, because they too know we have a need to do something for our youth and also, if we purchase or were able to do that, we could rent that for birthday parties; there's really a way to do a lot of things to get that; but there are grants out there, as well and I was also thinking about the Boys and Girls Club, which is housed in the school setting.

Vice Mayor Booros: They didn't want it.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: They didn't want it?

Vice Mayor Booros: No.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Okay, so that's off the list; but anyway I think there could be a lot of good things, but as you're saying Mayor, there has to be a good plan, a good working plan and organization there and I'm sure Councilman West knows what to do with all that; but I like the idea that we're looking at what we can do to help; keep the youths out of trouble.

Mayor Jones: This really isn't an opportunity to reiterate back and forth; let me see how Council makes out first, please. Anybody else on the Shipbuilder's property?

Councilman Collier if you're waiting to pull the plug on your committee ideas, you can certainly switch to that; we can go back and forth; there were a number of these things.

Councilman Collier: Well I am fortunate to have Streets and some of the things that were identified at our last meeting that seemed to be of great concern; in addition to the things like sidewalks, which came up tonight, which I don't have any real forward stuff to report in that aspect; but the intersection of Route 16 and Route 5. I was in touch with the gentleman who met with the former Streets and Sidewalks committee a year ago in March and basically the only information he wasn't able to provide me right away, was the Highway Department, DelDOT solution and how they have addressed that intersection; they posted three signs that say, No Passing On Shoulder. Now I'm not sure how long they have been there, but I don't know and without the Chief of Police here to defend it, that it's been enforced if any at all at this time. Essentially what I was told today was that short of a Capital Improvement Project, that was about the extent of what they say that they could do to help remedy that situation. Of course, I attended that meeting and there were some other ideas that came up and some members of the particular committee didn't care for the idea of the little plastic delineators...

Mayor Jones: And they talked about striping, too.

Councilman Collier: And striping and things like that. Those didn't go over well and personally I was in favor of phasing the lights in each direction, so that only one direction of traffic moves at one instance. There are some things that you have to consider under the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices and how you can store traffic and how long you can store it and what it impedes as it's being stored. This gentleman pointed out to me that he recalled recently reviewing a plan for a motel on the eastbound and if that goes forward, that would certainly have a negative impact on phasing the lights, because then it would impact two commercial entrances to do that, so I'm not sure that that's a viable alternative at this time. Mulberry Street and Route 16, that intersection, this information came from you, regarding that there is a letter agreement between Wagamon's West Shores and whomever, I'm not sure who the parties are right at this moment, that once that's built out that that intersection would get a

traffic light; so there is something laying out there and I will research that further and get more information. Another issue that came up out of the auspice of Streets and Sidewalks, Chestnut Street, Wharton and Atlantic; that particular intersection. I did my research and we're not able to just arbitrarily make that a four-way Stop without meeting a few things and one of the things that has to be researched and I've requested the data, but have not received it as of this date, is accident data for that and there is some usage data that has to be accumulated.

Mayor Jones: You did not receive the data; we received the email though; you did not have any statistics.

Councilman Collier: I don't have a statistic. I've not received any of the statistics that I requested from the Police Department.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Councilman Collier: Although I did receive an email promising it by this date.

Mayor Jones: I received that too.

Councilman Collier: But there are some other things that will have to be done, in addition to that, and that's primarily because it intersects with a State-Maintained Road and it's considered a great courtesy, as well, as a Standard Operating Procedure that you meet these objectives in order to do it. We are started in the right direction with that and one other thing that came up was the possibility of what can we do to the 16 corridor, coming into Town. I was really at a great loss for this and I happened to spend the last week out of Town and traveling through a lot of small towns and cities in another state and the consistent thing that I saw in all of these were they had banners; just simply little banners on the poles that Welcome to Whatever City you were in; some of them actually had banners that they changed with the seasons and had some sort of an emblem or a representation of the season of the year on it; or something like that. They're placed on utility poles. The only issue that I see, other than purchasing them, is to gain permission from the owner of the utility pole, to actually place those on it, which I don't know that's a particular problem. I know that they probably belong to either one or the other, the Electric Co-op or Delmarva Power and the communities I know of nearby are Ocean View and Millville have them placed on poles along that. The beauty of this thing is, now the 16 corridor, only small pieces of it are actually within the town limits of Milton on the north side; but the entire south side is and you have pretty even spacing of the street lights, so if you could place them on poles with streetlights, they'll be illuminated in the evening and we have the Garden Club and they're always wanting to beautify, well I've seen it... I believe Millsboro does it, they have hanging baskets on the poles down through their main thoroughfare, so these are the ideas that I've come up with at this point in time and with, I guess the blessing of Council and the Streets and Sidewalks Committee...

Vice Mayor Booros: Councilman Collier I can give you some points of contact for some possible revenue for the purchase of the banners and from what I understand from other municipalities, the hardest part of this, was not getting the banners, it was convincing the utility to allow you to hang it from their poles.

Councilman Collier: That's absolutely correct and that's what I've learned in my research, that that's going to be the most difficult part; but I would like to know at least, that we have funding available to purchase these things.

Vice Mayor Booros: I can give you the name of some people. It was available. I'm not sure if it still is available, but I'll get you the name.

Councilman Collier: Fine, I'll get that from you after the meeting if you don't mind.

Councilwoman Patterson: When Vice Mayor Booros and I served on the Economic Development Committee, we have all of the designs for the banners; they've already been done; we got that through a grant through DEDO, they're beautiful, but it was the utility company's... but not to dissuade you, because I do think that if we keep knocking on that door, hopefully they'll let us through. If you drive through a lot of the towns in Sussex County, you'll see those banners and they really do make a nice impact and what it does is it unifies. I've also spoken with Mr. Abbott about it and he has some information too.

Councilman Collier: Well one of the other issues that came up on that same corridor, was how to direct people to what's here.

Councilwoman Patterson: Absolutely.

Councilman Collier: And the simple issue is the blue and white sign. The area of the country I traveled in, there's vineyards everywhere and at every intersection where you could get to a vineyard, there's a little blue and white blade that says such and such a vineyard and the distance to it and you go by a small town that's off the by-pass and there's a blue and white sign that says Historical Society of this particular community. So these are things that can be done to draw attention to the downtown. It's an idea of how to possibly beautify that corridor, although it's going to take much more than just banners and flower pots; I mean there's going to have to be some effort done along some of the properties along that corridor as well.

Councilwoman Patterson: Signage has just been a major sore point with this Town. We really, really need signage and it's almost like an Economic Development, plus Streets and Sidewalks coming together and working with DelDOT. We're at a unique situation because of our State-Maintained Roads, but we can get through all of this.

Mayor Jones: And the Economic Development Committee is only able to make the recommendation to Council, because of the cost of the signs. Economic Development Committee doesn't receive a budget that would afford the kinds of signs, directional, informational, Welcome To Milton, that we're talking about needing.

Councilman Collier: Streets and Sidewalks doesn't really get that budget either, but we'll address that at budget time.

Mayor Jones: That's right.

Councilwoman Patterson: May I bring up something too, Councilman Collier? We were just talking about Chestnut Street, Atlantic and Wharton and I'm not trying to step on any toes, but I live on that side of town, I have a business on that side of town; Wharton is just a one block street and there's no mailing addresses on it and it's difficult trying to direct traffic to the Medical Park, even to Dogfish, Cannery Village and things like that and I don't know if that's in the Town, Wharton Street; if that could just be added to Atlantic; and again, I'm not trying to... If anybody loves Wharton, I apologize, but it changes from Cave Neck Road to Atlantic, then to Wharton, to Mulberry and when you're trying to direct traffic, it just gets a little confusing.

Councilman Collier: And I understand that.

Councilwoman Patterson: And since there are no mailing addresses on there, I was wondering if that was something you may be able to look into?

Councilman Collier: I can certainly look into it. The best thing I can tell you is that block is a State-Maintained Street.

Councilwoman Patterson: It is. Okay, darn.

Councilman Collier: That much I do know.

Councilwoman Patterson: And we do need a four-way stop sign there too.

Councilman Collier: Even in the State's documents that list what streets they maintain, it's listed as Wharton Street and it's given a specific length; but I'll see what I can find out and then we'll go from there.

Councilwoman Patterson: Okay.

Councilman Collier: I have no objection to looking into it; if somebody wants to make it... I always called it Atlantic Street all the way through anyhow, but that's just me.

Councilwoman Patterson: I do too, but every once in awhile, somebody's on the phone saying I'm on Wharton and I'm lost. No, just turn over there. Thank you.

Councilman Collier: I certainly will look into that. And other than some other things, what I do have, I have a report that was prepared by the University of Delaware's T-Squared Center, which is a transportation center and they evaluated Milton's Streets, Sidewalks and Signage and I can see where in reading it, where it was the guidelines for the last couple of years of Streets Projects, but there are some other things that are identified in there, in addition to the sidewalks; there's some issues with signs and whether they meet the retro-reflectivity requirements. Even some of the placement, where they're placed, the type of posts that are used and stuff like that and all these things at some point in time, we're going to have to address. Some of this stuff has to come into compliance by certain dates in order to meet the Federal/Municipal Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices and I had talked with Mr. Abbott this evening about meeting with him and Public Works as far as what we can do initially to start moving in the right direction with these things; because they've been identified; we have the information; it's just a matter of following up.

Vice Mayor Booros: Councilman Collier, is this the study that was done when Mayor Post was in office?

Councilman Collier: It was done in 2009.

Vice Mayor Booros: Okay, because there were a couple identified that are safety issues; you turn the corner and it hits you in the middle of the forehead.

Councilman Collier: And I understand that and that's also included within this report. It's pretty comprehensive. It also, and I haven't asked for it, but it also comes with some stuff... we've talked about mapping assets, in particular water lines and stuff like this; well the signs are also an asset of the Town and this report somewhere, somebody has gone to the trouble of creating files that actually work as an overlay in Google Earth; which is free and it gives you some sort of a traceable database to at least be able to look at a sign and there's data. I don't know where these files exist at this time.

Vice Mayor Booros: Are the signs on the County Roads, our responsibility or the counties?

Councilman Collier: It depends on which way they're facing and whether it's a County-Maintained Road.

Vice Mayor Booros: Mulberry Street? Union Street? Federal Street?

Councilman Collier: The ones that are on Mulberry, Union and Federal, are as far as I know, the state's responsibility. The intersecting streets, like say for instance, the street that Ms. Weeks' lives on; the stop sign that she comes out to before she turns on Union, that's the town's problem. That much I do know. But those that you agreed as you travel the State-Maintained Streets are theirs.

Vice Mayor Booros: So to come into compliance, at what point does the State or the

County pick up the signs on those? It's been since 2009, they haven't made any efforts towards bringing any of those signs into compliance?

Councilman Collier: From what I can tell you and only because I happen to be employed by the agency that does this, they actually have people that go around and assess these signs on a regular basis and what you need to do is look on the reverse of the sign, because when it is tested for retro-reflectivity, they put a small sticker on it and they map it as well and they have what they call an assets map of all their signs and they know where they all are, so if somebody says you've got a sign missing here, they can at least look and determine yes, there was a sign there and it's not a matter of somebody just trying to get one put up. But that is monitored. I can't tell you at what frequency or anything else, because it's not within the particular section of the agency that I work for, but I do know that it occurs because we see the guys out and about from time to time; they have a little thing that looks kind of like a kid's ray gun that they hold up to the sign and read some numbers off the back of it. These are other things, but I think these issues are stuff that can be addressed as needed by the Public Works Department; it's not something that we have to look at going out and writing a contract or getting onto... There is some budget available for things like signage and stuff like that, so we're not looking at trying to figure out where to get the dollars from at this point in time and we need to just assess what's there and come up with some sort of a plan to start implementing the changes. That's pretty much what I have right at this moment for Streets and Sidewalks, unless somebody's going to throw something else at me.

Mayor Jones: I am.

Councilman Collier: Go for it. Bring it.

Mayor Jones: Let's talk about sidewalks and Mr. Abbott, I'm going to look to you for guidance here. Right now, it is an accepted practice that the sidewalks in the Town of Milton are the responsibility of the property owners.

Win Abbott: That's not just accepted practice. That is our Ordinance.

Mayor Jones: Okay, so with the condition of parts of the sidewalks, I believe in my own heart, that more sidewalk improvement hasn't been done because, let's face it, it's just not a popular topic and so in order that sidewalks are maintained, I would imagine this Council is either going to have to put their foot down and enforce and require these Ordinances to be enforced by the homeowner's, property owners, or we need to go back and visit it and change it; but we can't do nothing.

Vice Mayor Booros: I think it's in the Charter, so that's not as easily changed, I should think.

Councilman Collier: I'm not 100% sure. It seems to me that it was changed by Ordinance, but you may be correct.

Vice Mayor Booros: I think it's in the Charter and the reason we couldn't get any Federal Stimulus Funds was because had it been an Ordinance, we could have changed it quickly with a couple of readings and a vote...

Councilman Collier: Well, that still falls in my lap.

Vice Mayor Booros: In the Charter, it has to be changed another way.

Councilman Collier: I remember at one time, because I kind of instituted it. I asked for a clarification as to the way it was written because it could be construed as being the town's responsibility, the way I read it; but it could be construed as being the property owner's responsibility if you read it; because of the way the particular thing was worded at the time.

Mayor Jones: But the question on the table is whether or not it's Ordinance or Charter, right now; that's an easy bit of research. Regardless of where it sits, the problem still remains. We either choose to enforce it, or we need to discuss if we believe there's a change necessary.

Councilman West: Madame Mayor, this was brought out a couple of years ago and it's never been enforced, because I know people on Chestnut Street that got letters, requiring them to fix their property and then they just jumped back to town, we're not fixing them. It's a shame and some people went ahead and did them, because from where Woody Johnson lived down to Pawnee Sermon, it costs, for the three of them, over \$30,000 back in the 1990's to replace that. On the other side of the street, the man told them, I'm not fixing my sidewalk and they wouldn't enforce it, because they were scared of him because he had money.

Mayor Jones: This is part and parcel of exactly what we're talking about; some public comments about Milton looking shabby and Code Enforcement Improvements. It's up to us. It is absolutely up to us to make this decision. Councilman Collier has some information.

Councilman Collier: Mayor Jones, thanks to Mr. Davis, he has found that it is actually within the Town Code. It's in Section 183, Article 1, Sub-section 183-1, Streets and Sidewalks and it is the duty of the property owner to repair sidewalk, is the general heading and then it goes on to greater description below that. I don't know that I need to read this, but I can if you want? I'll leave it up to you.

Councilman West: Also, Mayor, this discussion was brought up many years ago when Don Post was Mayor and we were meeting down at the theater and there was a group that was willing to do a lot of these sidewalks, if we could have gotten enough homeowner's that would get together, they were going to charge them a flat fee; it was a cheap fee; to tear out the sidewalks, repair them and George Short offered to head that committee up, but nobody would act on it because they were scared of these property owners and a prime example of what this outfit had done, was up by the ice cream store, a couple of houses up and they did do nice work and they were reasonable and they were willing, if we could get 6-8 property owners together, that they would stick to that price of putting it together.

Mayor Jones: But you do agree, sidewalks have been out there for a long time as a bone of contention and again, I would remind Council it's our responsibility.

Councilman West: But then the Mayor and Council just dropped it again. It was a good discussion. I can't remember when it was, it was in the winter when we were down there at the theater and it was over two Council Meetings and it was a healthy discussion. It wasn't a knock down drag 'em out, it was a productive discussion and you can talk to George Short and he may be able to shed some more light into that subject.

Councilwoman Patterson: I have a question. If the Town does take over sidewalk's, are we responsible for plowing them, making sure that they're uncovered during a snowstorm.

Councilman Collier: That's actually covered in another part of the Ordinance as to who's responsible.

Councilman West: The property owner is responsible so many hours after snow fall lands to have those sidewalks cleaned.

Councilwoman Patterson: It's good to know.

Councilman West: And that's another Ordinance that's not enforced. We enforced it this

winter, mother nature took care of it. But we're not that fortunate every year, but Councilman Collier and I were talking and he did come up with a good plan.

Councilman Collier: It won't be a popular plan, I'm afraid.

Councilman West: It will not be a popular plan, but it is a good plan and it will address part of these issues. I'm not going to discuss it anymore Councilman Collier.

Councilman Collier: That's quite all right. I think that we need to put it in committee before we bring it to the public.

Councilman West: Yes, so, it will answer a lot of questions when it does come out, or we feel it will and it will stir up controversy.

Mayor Jones: Well while we're on the subject of controversy, and sidewalks by the way, I did have someone here this evening bring to my attention about the obstruction of the sidewalks as they narrow along Union Street in front of certain businesses. I did take a walk around town and I have talked to members of the Garden Club, the woman and her husband who are in charge of the Garden Club are not available right now; I will be getting in touch with them as a courtesy, to talk about what looks like a very easy fix of moving some of the planters out of the most narrow areas and repositioning some of the benches, so I'll be working along with them, just so they understand that we're not trying to be disrespectful. We do love the beauty and the plantings they bring to downtown, but we do need to make the sidewalks accessible.

Councilman West: Also Mayor, on that subject, those trees need to be trimmed down because they are obstructing the lighting down there.

Mayor Jones: Yes they do. I agree. We talked about that last time, at least I commented on those being trimmed downtown, so we'll keep working along that issue.

Councilman West: I think they should be a possibility of removing those trees, because they're just going to keep getting bigger and bigger and bigger and we can get some kind of tree down there that will only grow so high and it will maintain itself at a certain height, not until it's struck.

Councilman Collier: I'm not so much in favor of removing them, as I am in reconfiguring how they're placed. If you go to towns that have large tree lines on main thoroughfares, you'll find everywhere there's a tree, there's also a bump out away from the sidewalk. Now the issue, and it will always be the issue downtown until we figure out how to solve this, if you bump out to create a space for a tree, you lose a parking space. Parking is already at a premium downtown, so there are solutions to it short of removal of the trees; it's just more strategic placement, I think; but we have to resolve what we do about parking first, because even if you cut down by half the number of trees there and set them out like that, you're still going to lose a dozen parking spaces downtown and the dozens would be devastating to the businesses that we have downtown and would deter any others from coming. But there are some ideas that have been discussed about what to do about that too, but I don't believe this is the proper time or place to bring them up.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I would rather do something to trim the trees, rather than... I love trees. I've got old trees in my yard, one I used to climb, so I had a man come and trim it down and unless it's rotted or something, I think we need to do all we can to preserve our trees, but we should, if we take any down, or some have to be down, that we replace them with another tree; like you're saying it would be...

Councilman West: That was my suggestion, replace them with other trees that won't grow as tall.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: The ones that aren't diseased or something.

Councilman West: Those trees are nice, but now that they're starting to block the light, then it makes it dark downtown.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Can they trim the trees; is there some kind of way to trim?

Councilman West: They probably can.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Yes, because on 16 they come out, the State comes out and trims at that big light out there; they've had to come out and trim, but the trees are still covering up some of the light; they need to be trimmed a little more, but they do do that.

Mayor Jones: So will you be tackling sidewalks on your committee and bringing back to Council your recommendation on what help you need?

Councilman Collier: It's all part of the two-page list I have for streets, that's growing, but I will call a meeting of the committee and I intend to do that in the very near future and start hashing these things out and seeing what we can come up with. As Councilman West alluded to, I have a thought about how to deal with sidewalks, but I don't want to bring that thought to the table without the blessings of the Streets and Sidewalks Committee.

Councilman West: Right.

Mayor Jones: Councilwoman Parker-Selby you brought a few new things to the table this evening, did you?

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I'll go one at a time here. In looking at the committees on line, I did have a question about Board of Elections vs. Board of Elections/Town Referendum Committee; because they both said the same thing and I don't know whether... help me out with that. I didn't see any difference between the two.

Win Abbott: Yes, Ma'am. If you read into our Charter, under the section where it says power to borrow money, there are a number of steps that are required and very specifically says that there shall be a special Board of Elections of three persons for the Referendum. So our regular Board of Elections has a total body of seven, five active persons and then two that are alternate members that have attended that. In order for us to be 100% in compliance with the Charter requirements, we had to have a special Board of Elections that was only three persons.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: So they both say the same thing?

Win Abbott: Yes, Ma'am. Basically they have the same duties.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Except that nothing was different.

Win Abbott: Yes, it was all about following the letter of our Charter for the Referendum, as opposed to a regular municipal election.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: It said Board of Elections/Town Referendum Committee; that would take care of both. Okay, I know what you're saying, but to me it's kind of like redundant to have the same page listed twice and you're covering the same information, but if this is... By the way I had a note to you, I need a hard copy like they have, because I'm a highlighter and I don't sit at the computer 24/7, so they told me to see you about it.

Win Abbott: You mean an agenda?

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: No, I have an agenda. I need a Code like they have, a hard copy.

Win Abbott: You will get one.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I highlight, then I can do better at that.

Win Abbott: You'll get one, we have them at Town Hall.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Okay thank you. Now, the other things I had here was some of the folks I see are expiring or their terms are expiring; so how do they get appointed or do they get reappointed to these positions? I'm in a learning place here.

Mayor Jones: When the committees were presented to me, I made contact with the voting board committees; the big three on the first page that you received; determined whether or not they were still interested in serving; and filled some empty spaces, as well.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Good, I was just wondering how that worked.

Mayor Jones: A number of the committees have not been finalized and I didn't want to make any additions to tonight's agenda to just put that in here, so in May those will be completed, I hope. I have been trying to get Councilman Collier quite a lot of help for his committee and I actually have a side shoot of a question when we come back to you. Go ahead.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I looked up Emergency Preparedness Committees and it says information to come. We have an Emergency Preparedness Committee, I assume.

Mayor Jones: We have not met in an Emergency Preparedness Committee for a number of years; I can't even tell you. It morphed into Neighborhood Watch, the best recollection I have of that committee, but there were a number of committees still listed; Councilwoman Parker-Selby that have sunsetted.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Okay, because I'm very much into the safety of our town and with what's been going on with flooding and that type of thing, I'm also on the Board of Directors for Delmarva Red Cross and that's a big concern about everybody. We want to make sure our towns are safe and when I saw that, I said oh great, then I saw information to come; that's why I thought I would bring it up tonight, because I think that would be a very important committee for our community people to be educated on what they need to do and that type of thing, so I hope we don't get rid of that. The Finance Committee and the Economic Development Committee I've had interest in the community also, retired educators are interested in being a part of those, but we'll discuss that later. So the Health Committee said information to come. Can somebody explain to me the Health Committee?

Mayor Jones: Sunsetted. I know Mr. Abbott offered to tell me the last time that committee met, but I have not actually pressed you or asked you for that answer; but if I'm not mistaken Janet Turner belonged to the Health Committee. Did you? Am I mistaken in saying so?

Janet Turner: Well when it morphed into the Street committee, I was very interested in the Preparedness and the Health; they morphed into something totally different.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: They could go together.

Janet Turner: But I'd be happy to be involved.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Great, because I think with all the problems we're having with health; there's a big push to make sure Senior Citizens and our youth on this little _____ and our towns are big pieces of that, so hopefully Milton will be along with the hospitals and so forth in working with that. The Personnel Committee I see I'm on that, which I don't mind; but are the duties in here? What are our duties?

Mayor Jones: The Personnel Committee duties are listed in the Charter, I believe I am correct in making that statement.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I haven't...

Win Abbott: The Code.

Mayor Jones: The Code. Thank you Mr. Abbott.

Win Abbott: Okay, it's Chapter 26.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: That's why I've got to have one. Okay. Then I looked at the Water Committee. I made a copy of that one. The ink costs so much money, I just didn't copy all of them, but on the Water Committee it also has the current members of the Finance Committee are as follows; and I'm assuming we mean the Water Committee. It's probably a mistake, typo, what have you, but I copied it here so you could see that.

Win Abbott: We'll get it fixed.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Oh, on the Water Committee, I talked to some of the people, I've talked to some of the people in the community and I'll get to others; when I come knocking on your door, don't get the dog out, but there is a concern we got when we got the new meters. When we got the new electric meters, the electric company told us how to try to read those; we had information how to do that; I would suggest, because some of the people want to know, because the bills are going up; and I know my bill has gone up and I'm not even home some of the time to use a lot of water, plus I'm very much into conserving because I learned that as a baby; we had to conserve real well back in the day, so I'm not one to waste water. So we would like to see if the residents could get trained in how to keep track of these meters that they go by... like the electric company did; some kind of information, how can we keep track so we know that we're getting billed correctly? That's been from several people asking me that, since I got on here, so I would like to put that out there.

Win Abbott: Yes, Ma'am. We'll be sure to do that and just to help you in your relations with your constituents, there were a number of meters that existed in homes that were dated. They were old.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I was one of those.

Win Abbott: Okay and we did a bench test of the meters and it was discovered that under low flow conditions, such as one toilet flush in a house; that the meters were not reading at all, on the old ones. So as part of our general meter upgrade, there were new meters installed in the homes that had old meters and even if your habits had not changed; no other persons in your household, times that you do laundry and so on; if those things hadn't changed, you would probably see a slight increase simply because you were being under-metered for the actual use. Now that you have more accurate meters, that reflects; but it's a fair question to ask how do we read our own meters so that you can track that and I'll get you an answer for that.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: That's good, because also with that, I have all new appliances that are just low usage of water and everything, which also made me think something's got to be checked, in my case; but that's great. I appreciate that. I need help along with the Dog Park Ad Hoc Committee; there was nothing on the page, but it's listed as a committee. What is that about?

Mayor Jones: Sunsetting.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Okay. Do people have a place to take their dogs to a park?

Win Abbott: Ma'am, when we converted our old website to our new website, we did not want to diminish the archival value of the information that was there. Amazingly, sometimes people want to go and find out what the minutes were in 2005, the last time the Dog Park Ad Hoc Committee met; and we've made an effort to upload as many documents as we could. So therefore, you may find some committees that have sunsetted, but continue to exist on the website for the benefit of people that want to do

research into what happened years ago.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Well it had nothing on the page. Zero. That's why I put it on my notes and then the one Comprehensive Plan Committee had nothing on that page, not even information upcoming or anything. That's why...

Win Abbott: And which committee was that?

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: There was one called the Dog one and the Comprehensive Plan Committee; neither had... there was nothing, not even a little comment, coming forth or anything; so that's why I put it on my notes. The Cannery Village Ad Hoc Committee, this is only my second real meeting, so I'm not sure if I'm going to have to get to Cannery Village, so I can hear from the people from Cannery Village, so I can get updated on that.

Vice Mayor Booros: What do you want to know?

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Because I remember when they built it and everything. So I'll get with my Cannery Village folks to get more information. Now these really got me nuts; I couldn't get anything; the Police Study Ad Hoc Committee. Nothing. Help me. Is that sunset or...

Win Abbott: That didn't exist until a couple of weeks of ago. They haven't even met once. So the Police Study Ad Hoc Committee, Mayor Jones created that on April 1st, and they haven't met yet. They don't even have a date set or an agenda for the first meeting and I don't have a specific description of the scope or the duties, but when I do it will go up on the website.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: And the College Research Ad Hoc Committee; that's why I'm assuming that the new college that's looking at possibly the Milton site, that would be another committee, which is out there anyway.

Win Abbott: Yes, Ma'am.

Mayor Jones: And they have met.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: They have met? Okay.

Mayor Jones: They have met already. Yes.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Well the Police Department said news coming soon; that's why I kind of wanted to bring that up. I think that's it for now, from me.

Mayor Jones: Councilman Collier you had indicated about more comprehensive reports coming from I believe your issue was Public Works and I know we have talked about Code Enforcement adding some information and I had introduced a police report containing additional information that I was not able to garner enough support to get through Council, but I wouldn't mind revisiting that if you're going to revisit some reports that you would like to see, that might be more helpful and if so, would you like to... are you able to target the May meeting to bring those reports for review by Council?

Councilman Collier: We're talking about the 13th, correct?

Mayor Jones: Yes.

Councilman Collier: I believe I can bring something forward. Essentially what I'm looking for is greater information in these things. Right now we get a report that has a simple statement that says delivered a trash can. Alright, well I want to know how many people it took to deliver that trash can; how many man hours were spent and how many equipment hours were used. In order for me as a councilperson to adequately support Public Works I need to know how their time and efforts are spent and we want to make sure that the citizens are getting the bang for their buck and it makes it easier to budget. We have a unique situation here, where we can charge a portion of their salaries off to

water, which is a proprietary fund. Well let's track and make sure we're charging everything we should charge to water on these employees and at this point in time, now, I'm not sure how they arrived at the percentage and I just want to look at it a little more closely myself. I think it's more important. I think it would certainly give us an opportunity to examine what they're doing and know that we're getting what we expect. The one thing that I can say, I've been in this Town for better than a decade now, and the Police Department has grown along with the Town, but the Public Works Department has shrunk and they've gained equally as much responsibility as the Police Department and I want to try and figure out if we're putting our efforts in the right places.

Mayor Jones: Okay. Two things, Councilwoman Parker-Selby mentioned it, I mention it also. I still want to follow up though. I do not want to drop this in your lap right now, Streets and Sidewalks is what I consider poor condition of the lighting, the streetlighting in town in many areas and I do want to visit that again. We have an upcoming Delmarva Power, is that correct Mr. Abbott? Is that anything you'd like to share?

Win Abbott: It's posted on the Town website, as of this afternoon and in the next couple of days and extending through the end of this month, maybe even the first week of May, we're going to have Delmarva and contractors that work for them do some reliability improvements; they will be replacing some of the polls and some of the wires on Atlantic, from where it meets Cave Neck Road all the way up to the point where it meets Chestnut Street; most of the length of Chestnut Street from Route 5 all the way out; I believe Mulberry and one other street. But nonetheless it's up on the website and they should be starting soon.

Mayor Jones: Okay, thank you.

Councilman West: Because Mayor these lights have not got the candle power of a light bulb, because I remember as a kid in these side streets where I live; they had a flat shade, corrugated, with 150 watt bulb in it that put out more light than what these lights are putting out, right now and that's a shame, with modern technology and LED Lights are not the way to go.

Win Abbott: Pardon me, just to be sure we're not mixing apples with oranges here, the electrical liability improvements have to do with transmission; lighting is another subject. True, Delmarva Power has engineers specifically for that, but they're two different subjects.

Councilman West: Well, I've got my thoughts on engineers, too and you don't want to hear them.

Vice Mayor Booros: Are you going in any particular order?

Mayor Jones: We aren't. Please.

Vice Mayor Booros: I've got a couple of things that we need to revisit and that's the piece of property in front of Hattie Bull's. That needs to be brought up and business license issues need to be brought up. I think I've identified, I won't even given you a number that I've identified of people in town that don't have business licenses. It's a pretty significant number and by the way Councilman Collier, it's Section 31, Page 60 of the Charter, where it says that the homeowner's are responsible for fixing their own sidewalk. So it is in the Charter, so we can do anything you want to do to the Code, but it isn't going to matter, because it's in the Charter. I knew I would find it.

Councilman Collier: I've got that to deal with, too.

Vice Mayor Booros: The park issues, absolutely there are park issues; but I don't necessarily think we have to revisit them until after the Parks Committee has met the

first time. I can bring them up now, but there's no need to. The Parks Committee, the biggest problem we're having is everybody's off during the day; one person works at night; the other person works during the day; she's only available two days a week and they really want to meet during the day and you would prefer that we meet in the evening.

Mayor Jones: It is a public meeting and I think that therefore they need to be accommodating the public that works.

Vice Mayor Booros: Okay, so we may be able to get together by August; we're working on it.

Councilman West: We met at all different hours before, John.

Vice Mayor Booros: We have a couple of people who work evenings and we have a couple of people that can't leave their spouses alone. We'll work it out, but we have a whole bunch of stuff for the Parks Committee, because the last time the Parks Committee met was May 3, 2011.

Councilman West: Two of those issues I can bring you up to speed on Vice Mayor Booros.

Vice Mayor Booros: We've already been up to speed on those issues.

Councilman West: I can tell you what we had come up with.

Vice Mayor Booros: But anyway, it's been a long time, so until we get the group back together to figure out what it is they want to do... I've collected stuff from the other municipalities, what they're doing in their parks and different programs and things that they're doing. I've got a whole folder full of stuff there.

Mayor Jones: And have you made contact with Lewes for that information on Canal Park?

Vice Mayor Booros: I have everything that I had from Canal Park. I have not made contact with them specifically to go over that, but I do have all the information from all the other municipalities that I could dig up; copies of permits, forms, everything. Lots of stuff and I will make that contact with Lewes.

Councilwoman Patterson: I may know some of the people on the committee, so just touch base with me and I can try to get you in with them.

Councilman Cote: Mayor Jones, I have a few things on the list. I reviewed the September 30, 2012 Management Letter and there were approximately a dozen recommendations, some newer, some carried over from the 2011 Management Letter, which was only a few months before the 2012, on projects to go forward with and one of them that wasn't on the list, but we had talked about, was putting the disbursements registers on the Town website. I think the plan is to start doing that in May.

Win Abbott: As you desire.

Councilman Cote: So the first one probably won't be until May 7, 8, 9 but that will be the first disbursements list for the month, I think.

Mayor Jones: Can you tell real quickly what will be included in that information so that the public can look for what's going to be available to them?

Councilman Cote: It's a check register; it will be the check number; who it was paid to and the amount of the check and there won't be the detail, but it will be the basic information and for Councilman Collier, I believe we will look at the allocation percentages when the budget comes around. I don't know that they'll change, but I think we need to look at what we've done and make sure we're still in the same place.

Win Abbott: And what allocations are you referring to?

Councilman Cote: Some of it would be salaries and all the personnel parts that we allocate to the different departments, across the General Fund into the Water Fund.

Win Abbott: You've seen the payroll records, right? Okay, the allocations are done by the number of hours for each individual reported by the department manager, so that's what creates the allocation.

Councilman Cote: Okay, I hadn't seen that yet, and then the insurance. Well we could look at that.

Win Abbott: Same way.

Councilman Cote: The liability insurance. And a couple of other things, some of them are easier than others. One of the issues was that not all the bills go directly to the Accounts Payable Department and we should talk to all our vendors and have all the original bills sent directly to the Accounts Payable people and they can distribute those bills, to get the approvals that they need. There was a section on monitoring fuel expenses by doing detailed reviews from the original invoices and possibly from point-of-sale receipts, to analyze the usage and make sure that we're all good. Another suggestion was to adopt the use of a lock box system to process our tax receipts and our utility receipts and we had our first meeting with M&T Bank today and there will be at least an additional meeting, if not more, as we go forward.

Mayor Jones: Councilman Cote that's a great idea that you've brought to the table. What is the advantage to Milton for that?

Councilman Cote: Well, the reason it was suggested in the Management Letter is that it provides more internal accounting control over the receipts themselves. Because we have such a small staff, there would be more control if the staff who makes all the other deposits and writes the checks, didn't handle the receipts themselves and one of the issues that we talked about today was how many people walk up to Town Hall and pay their taxes and water bills, so that would have to be worked out. In theory, and I don't know that we know the answer to that, but if the accounting personnel who spend their time handling the cash receipts were freed up, they may be able to do bigger tasks; some of the other tasks that we need to do. I know this came up during the budget last year about setting up a capital budgeting program going forward, to be used as a budgeting/planning tool for major expenditures that are down the road. One that might be the most time consuming to accomplish is a physical asset inventory. We can walk out and see the roads and we know they were paved, but we have automobiles, we have computers, we have desks, we have buildings, other equipment in Public Works, we have a number of vehicles in the Police Department which all have computers; although there is a assigned dollar limit under which it's not considered a capital expenditure and that's an accounting estimate that I think the accounting firm has agreed to what we use, I believe. So that would be a major, a big project, because we don't have right now an existing listing of those assets, a detailed listing. We have a General Ledger account which has the accumulation of all the numbers, but we don't have a listing that we could agree.

Win Abbott: Each year we do do inventory. I think you'll find this for Public Works in particular; however, I'm in total agreement that we don't have as much detail as would be desired for those things that exceed that lower threshold established by our auditors. Just as an aside, I still expect for the town to be the beneficiary of a Technical Assistance Grant that is funded through the Office of Drinking Water whereby a tech from the Delaware Rural Water Association is going to come to town and plug all of our assets

for the Water Department into a program that's put out by the Environmental Protection Agency; so every single fire hydrant and the location of every single fire hydrant and every single main and every single valve that we have in every single place throughout the town should be in the system before September rolls around and that will be a big step forward in having a more accurate assessment of what these capital assets are, so we can put them on a schedule and properly depreciate them.

Councilman Cote: Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Mr. Abbott, question for you. Inoperable hydrants. Now Mr. Bushey was kind enough to give Councilwoman Parker-Selby and myself a quick key code to what they mean. He was able to assure Councilwoman Parker-Selby though, that across from the Kwik-Stop was a fire hydrant which had maximum capacity; he was very glad to be able to report that to her; however, it appears we still have inoperable hydrants through town. If that is so, is that because they are not hooked up, will no longer be used and if that's the case, are they due to be removed?

Win Abbott: I cannot answer your question and I'm not trying to be coy. First of all, I don't have the knowledge, so I don't know. I can say that what was told to me by our former Public Works Director, that in some cases, somethings weren't replaced because there wasn't money in the budget for it and therefore we waited until next year and it was never really emphasized as an absolute necessity. The budgetary constraints on the town as a whole, and perhaps the humility of our former Public Works Director, made it so that he did not push the issue strenuously enough in my view. The second part of my answer to that is this, because it's been delayed, but we'll be having hydrant testing in the next few weeks, done by the Delaware Rural Water Association and when the testing is done, we'll be able to definitively say not just how many and which hydrants may be inoperable, but also the exact water pressure coming out of each one. This exact water pressure coming out of each one is part of the data necessary for the model that our engineer from Pennoni Associates was referring to that would help us to gauge the health of our system as a whole.

Mayor Jones: That would be the mapping?

Win Abbott: Yes, the mapping would be the next step. This would simply be gathering the data essential to do the mapping of the system, so we'll be having testing in the next few weeks; with that, we'll be able to know just exactly what it is and going back to the very first comment I made about something not being in the budget; we had a minimum budget for replacement of hydrants this year; that's one item that you'll see on your budget report that has already far exceeded it, simply because of the cost necessary to put in the one hydrant that we did on Summer Walk Boulevard. It was much deeper than we thought. We had to bring in a sub-contractor. We got the job done, but that's the reason why that one line item on the General Ledger far exceeds what the budget is. If we're to make this a priority to address, then that should probably be done through a budget amendment and we can do that at any time; you're the Council; you make it what it is and we document it and that's not a knock on the budget process. It just helps us to document the reasons why we did things.

Mayor Jones: The hydrant on Summer Walk that was repaired, replaced.

Win Abbott: Installed. There was none there.

Mayor Jones: Installed. Okay, can you help me understand what portion of that could still be rightfully belonging to the Chestnut Property developers, or the Town of Milton? I'm glad to see the Town of Milton fixed it, if we're in line for it, are we able to recoup

that money?

Win Abbott: I can't answer that. Mr. Davis and a review of the plans may be able to give you a better answer.

Mayor Jones: Okay.

Win Abbott: I don't expect that he would know off the top of his head, but I would go to Mr. Davis, because he works with the plans.

Mayor Jones: Yes, because we have so much still out with Cannery Village and their developers, it would be helpful if you would let me know what the answer is at another time.

Robin Davis: Yes, it would be best to research a little further on everything, but from what I gather talking to our Town Engineer, Bob Kerr and working with the previous Public Works Director on this, since it was a fire hydrant Water Department issue, there were two different sets of plans; one for Cannery Village which showed the fire hydrant at one location; there was an additional plan approved which was called the Round Pole Branch water improvements. I think this was done on part of the Mariner Middle School and possible expansion into Heritage Creek, showed the fire hydrant in a different location. The fire hydrant was put in per the approved plan for the Round Pole Branch plan; which came up missing on the Cannery Village plan. The number of hydrants that were counted by our engineer were correct; so if the developer was required to put in 25 hydrants, 20 hydrants were put in. It's just that it exceeded the allowable distance between hydrants.

Mayor Jones: And I'm going to assume if it exceeded an allowable distance then it had already been looked at, but it was in violation?

Robin Davis: Again, if I remember correctly it was identified when the punch list was completed for Cannery Village.

Councilman Cote: I believe it was identified as missing on the punch list and it was determined that, again like Mr. Davis said, that the correct number of hydrants were in Cannery Village, but the mandatory distance was exceeded when they moved it from the Cannery Village plan to the Round Pole Branch plan; it went from being about 500 or 600' apart to over 1,000' and I think that the distance is 800'. I don't know who approved, somehow, somebody approved the second one and didn't take into account the fact that it was more than 800'. I don't know who does that approval; whether that's the State Fire Marshall and they may have approved the plans, but because we're not finished yet, I don't know that they gave their final approval.

Mayor Jones: Well, don't get me wrong, it's a necessity for public safety, but I don't see where Milton can continue to bear the brunt of fixing and repairs and straightening out; it seems like it would be a project that would be worthwhile researching to understand where it happened and if there is some kind of shared expense that could be recouped out of something like this. Mr. Abbott, is there something afoot where we're looking at that chance of Milton recouping any of their funds?

Win Abbott: I thought that the Mayor and Council had made their determination that after researching that it was something that the town had to do and the town was going to do; if you wish, we can move forward with reviewing it again and looking at this once again.

Mayor Jones: I do remember it being viewed as a situation that was a necessity for public safety, but I have to admit that I wasn't aware that there was a back story that went with it at the time. I would never question the fact of putting something in for

public safety. Again, there's so very much that we need to spend our earnings on and if we're just cleaning something up for someone else, it would be nice to know that.

Councilman West did you have anything you wanted to add?

Councilman West: Yes, to reiterate on that GPS deal that I talked about the other night, how many of these later model vehicles have got GPS; I would like to know how many have got GPS built into them and are we still looking into the possibility of tracking our people with their cellphone; because if we put this ABL system in these vehicles, it's not cost-effective for the Town. The only bad thing about the GPS in the phones, it will not let you know about the vehicle's usage, up and down; it will track the employee, good and bad; but some of these vehicles already have the GPS built into them and it's part of the payment plan when you purchase these vehicles and I'm just wondering how many do have it and how many do not. I know you _____ pick up this stuff and they do not have it in them, but your later model cars and stuff that the police have, it is built in to that computer system.

Mayor Jones: Councilman West, you asked last time about a security camera having been purchased for the gazebo? Mr. Abbott were you privileged to any of that information and if not, perhaps Councilman West can put me in the direction of someone I should be asking about that?

Win Abbott: No. All I know is that the Chief was interested in doing that. I do not know whether he did do it or not and where the funds came from. All we have to do is call the Chief of Police and ask.

Councilman West: Yes, the Chief said that he had means of getting grant funds to do that, so we need to follow up with him to see what he has pursued.

Win Abbott: I believe that the State Aid for Local Law Enforcement pays for equipment purchases like that; more often they are not used for computers and other such things that are inside the vehicles; but we construed, I believe, that is the grant that Chief would have been referring to; that's SALLE, which you'll find on your budget.

Mayor Jones: I'll see if we can't get an answer for you.

Councilman West: Because that will ease a lot of people's consciences about some of the things that they had found down there, that are not too pleasurable...

Vice Mayor Booros: Not if there's not somebody sitting in the police station watching it; it doesn't really matter whether there's a camera there or not.

Councilman West: Yes it does. Yes it does, because they can tell by those cameras, they can go back and see who was in that park at any given time.

Vice Mayor Booros: Okay.

Councilman West: And then those cameras will help them locate the person.

Vice Mayor Booros: But a lot of times those cameras tape back over each other, if they're not downloaded after so many hours.

Councilman Collier: If I may I'd like to comment about this too. First of all, to me placing cameras in the park, that's not proactive, that's reactive. I think the key to taking care of any problems we may have in the park require proactive type behavior, and not reactive; it's nice to film the guy sitting there drinking a six-pack, but if you don't get there until after the fact and he happens to be sitting at the bench with his back turned and all you can do is identify the shiny silver can; you haven't really accomplished anything. I would dearly love to see officers take a foot patrol through the park every couple of hours through the better part of the day and I think it would break up a lot of the nonsense. Being one of the people that spends a lot of my time in the park, I almost

feel like I'm policing, as well. I had the occasion this weekend to operate the train and there were a couple of people and one of them happens to be my neighbor, but that's immaterial and they were in there and they were drinking and they were getting loud and they were getting a little carried away and I know that there would soon be a party of young children there, so I just took it upon myself, walked over and said, are we going to do the neighborly thing. You know you're not supposed to drink here and they were aware of that and I'm doing the neighborly thing; I'm asking you to take your stuff and leave and I won't bother with the police, but that shouldn't be my place. That's not what I go to the park for. I'm there as a volunteer on behalf of another organization and the park is the destination for that reason and the other things that you mentioned that aren't too pleasurable, I'm the one that's made the fuss about those, as well.

Councilman West: You're not the only one.

Councilman Collier: I may not be the only one, but I know that I sent the former Mayor photographs and I don't believe this Mayor particularly cares to get photographs of them herself.

Councilman West: No.

Councilman Collier: I'm putting my trust in helping to take measures to put an end to that kind of nonsense.

Councilman West: I've had a few people talk to me about it; they go down there and love that park and take their kids down there and they don't want to see that crap.

Councilman Collier: Over the course of my weekend I witnessed an officer down there observing somebody who they thought might be imbibing of alcohol and of course, it's the same people that I ran out of there on another day and they never really approached them; they just kind of sat and watched from a distance and another officer rode by, but nobody ever got out and made a contact. If you have an officer walking through, what he can casually observe a lot of times will take care of that, or just the presence in itself deters the behavior because, when they admit to you, yes we know we're not supposed to; and then you get told a story, well if the cops come, they'll just make us pour it out and we'll walk to Workman's and get another one and come sit in another part of the park and drink it. So this is the kind of stuff and I'm not sure this is what we were here to discuss tonight, but it came up and I felt like I needed to weigh in.

Councilman West: But they do need to make their presence known in this park, especially with the activities that are coming up in light of what just happened up in Boston and stuff and they need to start walking with the crowds that we'll get for these events.

Mayor Jones: I just had this conversation last Thursday with Chief Phillips. You indicate foot patrols in the park during the daytime, though I have challenged you as to why you differentiate between day and night. I think it needs to take place all around, especially as the better weather is coming and people are in the park what appears to be all night long.

Councilman West: My feelings are it should be 24/7 Mayor. That they should be in there at one time or another during that 24/7.

Councilman Collier: The park closes at dusk and that's posted.

Mayor Jones: Well, that may be posted...

Councilman Collier: I understand exactly what you're saying and my concern when it comes down to it, is I get to deal with a lot of the 3 to 7 year old set and it's not the kind of stuff that you want your 3 year old or your 7 year old or even your 13 year old

exposed to. I don't know the exact figures, but I can tell you that if I have two events every weekend, each month; I would say that more of those people are coming from somewhere other than the Town of Milton that are; so what does it speak of our town when somebody comes and this is what they see or experience or witness. I happen to walk around Sunday and just peer in every trash can in the park and I also had to use the facility there and I can safely say that everyone of them held at least one beer can. So that tells me that regardless of the sign posting and what little police presence may be there, that there's not enough.

Mayor Jones: There's not. Councilwoman Patterson?

Councilwoman Patterson: Nothing additional, just what I brought up at the last meeting.

Vice Mayor Booros: Then I will go, if she won't. We need to follow up on the Tidewater asking to purchase the land down there along the waterfront.

Mayor Jones: I have that.

Vice Mayor Booros: And as a personal note, I would like to know about the Clean Delaware trucks. We've had this discussion of where the trucks are coming from and Holland Mills cannot be generating that much waste for there to be that many trucks.

Councilwoman Patterson: So Clean Delaware is the trucking company that brings the sewerage to the plant to be treated, is that correct?

Vice Mayor Booros: Yes and it was my understanding that they were bringing it from Holland Mills before they hooked up the pipe; the pipe hasn't been connected yet. I can't imagine that that community, as small as it is, is generating enough waste to have that many trucks coming in here in a week.

Councilwoman Patterson: So you've seen that many?

Vice Mayor Booros: I've been told there are that many.

Councilwoman Patterson: You've been told. Okay.

Councilman Collier: Vice Mayor Booros even if you find out, who's bringing it in, what do you think we can do to prevent it? I think we kind of gave away the say over any of that.

Vice Mayor Booros: No I don't think we gave away hauling hazardous waste into this town by truck. I don't think we've given that away and I think we need to address it, because if there's a spill out here on this parking lot, somebody's going to be cleaning it up.

Councilman Collier: That I agree with, but...

Vice Mayor Booros: This has nothing to do with the sewerage treatment plant. It has to do with the trucks coming in with the waste in it.

Councilman Collier: Alright, I understand your issue now.

Vice Mayor Booros: Okay?

Councilman Collier: Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Councilman Cote are you still working on resetting the Finance Committee's purpose with duties, responsibilities and authorities?

Councilman Cote: Yes. I have another draft, but it didn't make it to the meeting.

Mayor Jones: Okay. I also see that there will be a need, I brought this up, it was just a passing... there's going to be a need for a few more opportunities to put some folks together on particularly some feasibility study assignments, as I expect in May we will hear from the public. I look forward to hearing those ideas coming back to Council in that Town Hall Meeting on May 18th. So look for the need for some of those assignments to come forth. Also the idea in the Historic District, not only the Historic

District, but particularly historic properties, no matter where they're located. I do believe we're going to need a committee charged with looking into beefing up our Ordinances, those things that will protect the homes from going in to just, let's face it, demolition by neglect; there's no other word for it. I think we're already looking at some locations in the fabric of our Historic District that are suffering that. So the idea of getting some teeth into that Ordinance and making it more enforceable and protecting the properties is a great idea.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: May I speak to that? And there's a history to this, but just in case many new people do not know, the little two-room school that was out on 16 is where I went to school, grades 1 through 6 and it was probably purchased sometime through the history of the town. I was younger then and don't know all of it, but because it was privately purchased, it's now on sale by private owners and so forth. That, of course, was one of the DuPont Schools that were placed all over the State of Delaware. It was historical. It is gone. So I am now in charge of the 196(c) reunion and we will be looking into how we can at least get a marker out there, so that when people come to this town, they can know that there was a school there that did educate the minority students in the community and that school gave a lot of people, a lot of people went out of that school who now some of them are doctors and lawyers and so forth, I'm proud to say and we don't need to ignore that fact; it's a piece of Milton, Delaware and it was a historical piece that's gone now, but we can't let it get out of our historical books and so forth. I just want to bring that up because that's one good example.

Councilman West: You need to speak to Rep. Steve Smith to sponsor that.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Don't worry, I'm already on it.

Mayor Jones: I also would like to say and follow-up on Mrs. Weeks' comment tonight in the audience, as well as another email I received and we're looking at Ordinances, Codes; I believe 10" of grass is also at the point of seed head, which is the problem you have. If you have noticed a lawn that has 10" of grass on it, and you send out a notice and wait for it, it's going to be a lot longer than that by the time someone addresses it and I would say that that takes you up to about, oh well above your ankles at 10" long and I do believe as a property owner that could be upsetting to have those homes, when you try to hard to make your own look very nice, so that is a Code issue I think that stands looking at. Councilman Collier, you and I had this conversation a little bit back. You were first charged on that committee to review the Charter as it applied to and laid over the Codes and Ordinances. Is that not correct?

Councilman Collier: That's essentially correct. Yes.

Mayor Jones: And we also talked that that assignment is relatively huge in terms of trying to coordinate all together and whether or not to split your committee out is to be strictly something that looks at the Charter, as we move forward for a possible Charter change; perhaps we could target 2014; it does take awhile to do the research and do the work if you want to do it well; so I wouldn't want to rush that project; but whether or not you need in addition, offshoots of that committee to look at your Codes and Ordinances to help you out and make the process any easier.

Councilman Collier: That could well be a possibility. We really haven't torn into this thing, as of yet, so I can't speak to what progress is. Our first meeting is scheduled for the 16th of May, tentatively, and the Charter contains one fail safe and even though your Charter and your Ordinance don't match exactly, it does contain in one of the very last sections, it says that the Charter supersedes all of your Codes and Ordinances. So you

always have that fail safe, so a lot of the stuff that we went through was more for the idea of just trying to end some of the confusion because they didn't always exactly match and when we got into the meat of it, we found that there was very little substance to that; there were a few places here and there. Perhaps one of the bigger things to do, is to look at what you could take out of your Charter and move into your Codes, so that you don't have to go through this long drawn out process in order to alter things, as needed; or as time and things change. You still have to have the Charter and I'm not saying do away with the document, but there are some things and possibly a good example of that would be the annexation process. If you push that into Code and you find that you have something that you need to fix in that process, you can fix it in the course of two or three months, instead of waiting for the cycle of legislature to come around and it going back and forth because they're going to read it; they're going to kick it back to you with whatever problems they have; then you have to make adjustments and so on and so forth. That's just one example of an area where maybe it's best to move that over; but there probably are other sections that that could be done, as well. Another point in case would be we have the issue of sidewalks and the responsibility, well that's covered in the Charter and it's also covered in the Ordinances; do we need it in both places? Because if it wasn't in the Charter, we could fix our Ordinance in a very short period of time and it would have enabled us to move forward with the possibility of some sort of outside funding to deal with sidewalks; but because it's in our Charter, you go through essentially it's a long process. Anybody that's worked on the Charter, here in the past, knows that it's usually about a year from when you start, until you submit it to legislature and another 6-8 months after that, before it's finally done; so you've got 18 months that you're in limbo with some of these issues. I have to say, at this point, I would keep that open as an idea. I don't want to move and immediately give it up and say, let's do that. We have Ordinances that need to be addressed and possibly specific Ordinances and one that comes to mind for me and it's something we can go over and over and over again, the sub-division Ordinance and how it's structured. It needs to be updated, addressed, strengthened. Milton's missing the boat in some aspects. The idea of the performance bond that they're fighting in Cannery Village. That's one thing. There are other things that you can give besides a performance bond. You can get an Inspection Fee so then we could hire an outside firm to do the quality control and quality assurance that seems to be sorely lacking in these areas. Instead of the town bearing the brunt of the cost and the taxpayers, we put that responsibility back on the guy doing the work, which it just makes it worth his while to do it right, because he's paying us to check him anyhow.

Councilwoman Patterson: Is that where it... Right now the town fronts the money for the developers to come in with the fees and what not and then we get reimbursed by the developers? Or is that different?

Councilman Collier: The performance bond comes at the front end of the job. That should be one of the very first things that happens. An inspection fee is something they should pay before the first teaspoon of dirt is turned; so then when the streets are constructed, in the perfect world, the town has an engineering firm and it also has an inspection service, as part of it and they send their representative out and they make sure that if it calls for 6" of coarse graded aggregate, it's there and the right asphalt, the concrete curbing is constructed to the right thing; and at the same time they keep a traveling punch list, so to speak, so if something's not done right the first time, they say,

no that doesn't pass inspection; tear it out and fix it; and it's at their cost.

Councilwoman Patterson: Right and I had heard, I guess, through the Finance Committee and I'm not sure if it was on Council as well, but we front a lot of the money...

Councilman Collier: That's sometimes with Impact Fees.

Councilwoman Patterson: With Impact Fees and sometimes it takes us a little while to get reimbursed for those.

Councilman Collier: That I have seen done, but with the performance bond that's not something that they front; that should be done in the very earliest stages and the same thing with the concept of an inspection fee. Currently our Ordinances don't contain that, but there are Ordinances out there; it's a common practice; it's done. To give you an example, the development that you live in has an entrance that comes out onto a State-Maintained Road?

Councilwoman Patterson: Yes.

Councilman Collier: Well for that portion of that development, they pay to the State of Delaware an inspection fee for that entrance, so that Delaware could inspect just that little bit of curbing and that opening that ties into their road; because that's in the State of Delaware's sub-division ordinance; the one that's developed by the DelDOT. Well there's nothing that says that the Town of Milton can't develop with a very similar concept and have that for everything so that as the streets are built, it's like the issue with the fire hydrant; if you have the proper quality assurance and inspection in place, quality control, these things get caught before they go beyond that state where somebody has to scramble to fix it.

Councilwoman Patterson: Good. Thank you.

Councilman Collier: But that's just...

Jeff Dailey, 211 Gristmill: Mayor Jones, thank you for hearing my point-of-order. All I want to do is bring forth information that was not brought forth by the Council in their discussion on a number of topics; all of it is documented. I will raise just a couple of questions that have to do with protection of the town, under the heading Liability. Quickly under the discussion of the Shipbuilder's properties. It seemed to be discussed as one entity. There are in fact seven lots on Mulberry and there is information that came forth at a previous Town Council Meeting that those lots are no longer part of Shipbuilder's and thank you for enlightening us to the use of the community center, as a community center and that could continue, despite the covenants. So that was one item. I believe it was just over two years ago that Vice Mayor Betts as Chair of Streets and Sidewalks, there were sidewalks that were rebuilt in the town and there was money that was provided; the homeowner's did not pay and I want to say that one of the homes is the very lovely house on the southwest corner of Wharton, Chestnut and Atlantic; so that might bear looking into. Also the topic on Streets and Sidewalks and in particular, pertaining to sidewalks of having a forgiveness fund, which coincides with the discussion or the topic that was brought up about capital funding. In other words, there are towns where yes, the homeowner's are responsible, but when the homeowner's can't pay, the town has had the foresight to set money aside over the years, so that that money can then assist homeowner's where there are shortages. So that was another topic that was discussed.

Councilman West: That has been done in the past.

Jeff Dailey: Check registry – I'm just curious if posting that online is in any way going

to open the town up to Liability. If I were providing services to the town and the amount that was paid to me, I don't know if there's a non-disclosure, if as a supplier of goods to the town, if I would need to sign something that would give permission, so that in a check registry posted on the town's website, it would be known what I was selling my product for. That's just a question, again, to safeguard the town. Councilwoman Parker-Selby brought up safety committee and safety issues. For a long time it has been discussed that there is very little for youth in our town and also the exposed propane without adequate fencing behind Bodie's has been brought up at Town Council meetings in the past as a safety issue. The Comprehensive Plan was mentioned briefly, but that is something that has snuck up on the town in the past. Also, that brings up another topic, the town needs to be mindful of the reconfiguring of the LPD overlay for Cannery Village and people who technically do not have right-of-way to their garages, across from Dogfish Head. So that has been brought up. The dry hydrants throughout town, they have been reported not to be working and yet just a few days ago, I spoke with a gentleman with the Fire Department who is chiefly responsible for bringing dry hydrants into Milton and all the way up to 30 and Reynolds Road; those dry hydrants are now being taken over by DNREC. They are all operational. They need to be blown out and then water can be drawn from the bodies of water next to which these dry hydrants are situated. I was told also that if there was a major fire downtown, none of the firemen would tap into the town hydrants. They would all use the dry hydrants, because their equipment can engender the optimal pressure, so that might be something that you want to look into there, as well. There is also a roadway that is on the Master Plan that connects Summer Walk; a roadway that may never come into being, but it is on plans and it goes across the middle school property and connects Cannery Village to Heritage Creek. That is in the proximity of the fire hydrant that was replaced, so I don't know if that would have any bearing on what was discussed. And one thing that did not come up. I'm kind of sneaking this in, but it was a topic during the recent water referendum; the Water Department is underwriting a percentage of salaries and I would like to know and I think all of you would like to know, is that percentage correct, or is the Water Department bearing too much of a brunt of town salaries? In the past, accusations were made by neighbors that this was done simply to balance the budget. Thank you very much.

Councilman Collier: May I respond to one thing Mr. Dailey said?

Mayor Jones: You certainly may.

Councilman Collier: Mr. Dailey, the sidewalk that you mentioned and there were other sidewalks in town and it was done under a program known as Safe Routes to Schools and it was primarily a grant and I cannot explain to you the selection process as to how they chose which sidewalks they replaced and didn't replace, but that's how those particular sidewalk's were done and that program was administered through the Division of Planning of the Department of Transportation, so they're the ones that went and did the assessment and decided what was to be fixed and what was not and I've had questions from constituents that they were a little concerned because the property on the right of them got a sidewalk at no cost; the property on the left of them got a sidewalk at no cost to them; and they're sitting with the letter they received two or three years ago saying, they need to replace their sidewalk.

Jeff Dailey: Councilman Collier, thank you for that response; however, I believe this was separate from the Safe Schools Grant.

Councilman Collier: Okay, then that's not the house on the corner, that would be the next one or two over from that.

Jeff Dailey: Okay and maybe Mrs. Betts would be able to shed some light on this.

Councilman Collier: I can't think of the ladies name, but I know exactly the sidewalk you're talking about and that was repaired out of town funds and it was also done prior to when the ordinance was clarified. I do know that, because I've been chasing this issue for quite some time.

Jeff Dailey: Yeah and it seemed that there were about five different households and they were trying to coordinate and get the best price.

Councilman Collier: That's the issue that Councilman West brought up and I'm aware of that, as well.

Jeff Dailey: Thank you very much.

Mayor Jones: I hear no further discussion on our list, everybody brought some great ideas to the table and I believe it is a document in progress, but we have certainly collectively named some topics that we can begin to work on. We have sent the Personnel Committee meeting for the 9th of May, 4:45 in the afternoon at Town Hall. I have no other business, except to tell you that tomorrow is the deadline for you to tell Mrs. Rogers if you plan to attend the S.C.A.T. Meeting in Milford on May 1st.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I have one more thing, if you don't mind; in reference to our agenda and it may be it's written in the Code, or what have you. Question? Why do we have public participation before we really open the meeting? I guess I should start with that question. Is that historical?

Mayor Jones: Well it is historical. I've always felt that it was a means of expediency as far as allowing the public to speak on topics that may or may not be directly on the agenda that evening. I've also been someone who has spoke and said it's very difficult to participate in any comments in reference to the agenda, if you don't know what's on the agenda. One of the points that we talked about at the April 10th meeting, was the possibility of having our Council packages for the most part, available in public locations and I will be talking further with Mr. Abbott about that.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: My thought to that is, from other organizations and so forth, I was looking at this that we open the meeting by calling it to order. I kind of like the patriotism in me, is that you open the meeting up with your flag salute, silent meditation, then the people in the room can do whatever else. That's kind of where I was coming from, because I think that flag salute and silent meditation are a big piece of we're going to get ready to start something now. That's why and three minutes, or whatever the timeframe is, the public would speak before we got into the meat of the meeting that's why I brought that up. I think it just feels out of sync.

Mayor Jones: We'll take that into consideration. Councilman Collier you wanted to say something.

Councilman Collier: I believe some of that information now is getting posted on the website with the agenda, so some of it is just educating the public that some of this data is available to them. They're getting to see the same documents that I am sitting on this side of the table on a lot of the issues and that's something that's just recently begun. I think it began with the April 1st meeting. For the most part, the public will have the ability to see the same information that I'm given in advance of an issue. If people think that we're getting a whole bunch of secret stuff before we get to the meeting; if that's happening, I'm not privy to it yet.

Mayor Jones: Hearing no further discussion, do I hear a motion to adjourn?

10. Executive Session: Discuss Personnel Issues, Litigation and Land Acquisition
 - a. None

11. Adjournment

Councilman West: I make a motion to adjourn at 8:46 p.m.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Second.

Mayor Jones: Any discussion? We have a motion and a second to adjourn. All in favor say aye.
Opposed. Motion carried.